

thought to over-winter, have been found in the wild floating in vernal pools and in the laboratory have been formed within snail shells. The adults are not long-lived and Rozkošný & Knutson (1970) have bred several generations in a year under laboratory conditions—the large numbers of individuals occurring in our traps in both June and September would suggest that there are at least two generations in England during the summer months.

The nationally scarce *C. bifasciella*, *P. verbekei* and *S. simplex* all occurred widely in our east Anglian survey—in 32, 29 and 33 sample stations respectively of the 72 operated. Although the majority of sites included within the study were of high nature conservation value, it may be significant that all the rare species discussed above were absent, albeit from a low number, of the drier and more degraded sites.

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

Red admiral in February.—I would like to report the discovery of the eaten-out cadaver of a newly-emerged red admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*) with wings not yet fully-inflated, found in my kitchen garden on 9 February 1997 following bouts of warm weather. This adds credence to the idea of a home grown supply of red admirals though their survival through the winter and spring may be problematical.—JOHN FELTWELL, Marlham, Henley's Down, Battle, East Sussex TN33 9BN.